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Bath<sup>th</sup> 20 Decbr 1746

Mr William Dudley

Sir

I take the Liberty to trouble you with a Letter to Return you my thanks for your Goodness shew'd to me in my most unhappy Situation, If my affairs are not in a better State It is not my fault, Six years since my Health Required me to Retire to this Place where I confin'd my selfe to Live on 240<sup>th</sup> a Year which I have never Exceeded tho' sometimes I've been very Ill. when I Left London I was assur'd by my Men of business that they would take Care and settle all my affairs, and soon make me easy, but tho' I Intirely Relied on them yett not one thing has been Done towards It, which those who shoud pay me my In come which shoud not only Subsist me, but also pay my Creditors (which by the way I have Liv'd In I have prov'd to be my Desire) Seeing those concern'd for Me so Pernis have and Do Omitt and Refuse to pay me any thing and for these three Years past not one hundred and fifty Pounds has been paid to me or my Wife, Experience therefore shews me that nothing but one acting under my own Direction and Inspection can Relieve me; from hence Sir arises my present distres, and as my Eldest Son is now Com'd from the West Indies Into Europe, as I am Inform'd by my Wife that things are so settled that on his Return from the Baltick where he at present is on Comand our Creditors will all be made easy. I thought It need say to Represent this truth to you, that my affairs being now in no better way May not be Imputed to any Extravagance or fault of mine, for I assure you I neither dem'd or Covett any Pleasures or Diversions, and am and always was Ready and Desirous to Submitt to any thing to Live In any way that my Creditors may be Paid, It is my only wish, and I desire nothing but Ease.

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Nothing but a Series of Misfortunes have I gone through, Lord Thomonds Unkindness to me and my family none of the Least to which you are no Stranger, Some people indeed Flattered me that some Regard would be shewed to me as they at Law to such a Fortune by those that Inherited It, but with such hopes I never flattered my Selfe.

I beg Leave to Refer you to my Sons Letter who will wait on you with this and by the Attorney's Letter which I have sent up to be layd before you, It will appear with how much Disrespect His Royal Highness's Appointments is treated, my Misfortunes are neither my own Seeking or causing by them I hope I shall be thought an Object of Pity and therefore not be given up a Sacrifice to Greedy Avaries, by which means only I can be Rendered Incapable of Paying any Rdy, your Representation of this affair will I hope preserve me the Continuation of his Royal Highness's Favour so far that my person may be secure and that I may sleep in my bed in Safety, which I have not Done for some time Past, my uneasiness has been so Great, I can neither Eat or sleep and thereby my Complaints from the Stone & Gravel is Return'd and I have been two Days Confined to my Bed. The Pain of Mind and Rdy I at this time I hope will excuse all Errors, and that you will pardon this trouble is the Humble Request of

Sir

Your most obedient and obliged  
humble Servant

W Dudley